

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 042585  
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06  
IO-13 ACDA-12 NEAE-00 /084 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:LPOPE/WNHOWELL:PDW  
APPROVED BY NEA:MDRAPER

-----075209 171841Z /53

P 171752Z FEB 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 042585

FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, LE

SUBJECT: SITUATION IN LEBANON

REFS: (A) BEIRUT 812, (B) BEIRUT 885

1. YOU AND YOUR STAFF HAVE BEEN TAKING JUST THE RIGHT LINE  
IN YOUR CONVERSATIONS WITH KEY CHRISTIAN LEADERS. YOU  
SHOULD CONTINUE TO IMPRESS UPON THEM THAT WE EXPECT  
RESTRAINT AND SELF-DISCIPLINE ON ALL SIDES AND ARE NOT  
SYMPATHETIC TO ACTIONS BY INDIVIDUALS OR FACTIONS WHICH  
EXACERBATE THE SITUATION BY ACCIDENT OR DESIGN. NEED FOR  
ALL CONCERNED TO RECOGNIZE ANXIETIES AND PRESSURES ACTING  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 042585

ON OTHER PARTIES, INCLUDING SYRIANS WHO ARE AFTER ALL STILL  
IN LEBANON AT THE REQUEST OF THE DULY CONSTITUTED LEBANESE  
GOVERNMENT, IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT. AT YOUR DISCRETION,  
YOU MAY WANT TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT BASHIR UNDERSTANDS  
COMPLETELY THIS ASPECT OF USG POSITION, ADDING, IF  
YOU FEEL IT HELPING IN REINFORCING YOUR REMARKS, THAT YOU  
HAVE INSTRUCTIONS FROM WASHINGTON ON THIS POINT.

2. OUR LATEST TELECON WITH MURPHY REINFORCES OUR VIEW THAT SYRIAN LEADERSHIP WISHES TO AVOID A BLOODBATH OR A MAJOR DETERIORATION OF THE SITUATION AND BASICALLY WANTS AN ORDERLY SITUATION. OUR VIEW TODAY IS THAT A MAJOR

CONFRONTATION COULD OCCUR AT ANY TIME, BUT THAT WE DOUBT IT WOULD BE AT SYRIAN DESIGN. IT WOULD BE ACCIDENTAL OR AS A RESULT OF PROVOCATIONS BY TROUBLE-MAKERS. VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, BRIEFING MATERIALS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, RELIGIOUS LEADERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 feb 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE042585  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** LPOPE/WNHOWELL:PDW  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780074-0475  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780239/aaaabhdw.tel  
**Line Count:** 71  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 2d0008d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 BEIRUT 812, 78 BEIRUT 885  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 30 jun 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3554260  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SITUATION IN LEBANON  
**TAGS:** PINT, LE  
**To:** BEIRUT  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/2d0008d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014